

Amendments to the Claims:

The following is a complete list of claims indicating the changes incorporated by the present amendment and replacing all prior versions of the claims. Any claims canceled herein and all deletions made in claims that are not canceled herein are done so without prejudice to being re-instituted at a later date in this or a related application.

What is claimed is:

Claims 1-20 (canceled)

- 1 **Claim 21 (currently amended):** A method for generating hydrogen gas for combustion, the
2 method comprising the steps of:
- 3 (a) contacting reactants consisting of aluminum metal and an aqueous potassium
4 hydroxide solution ~~containing hydroxide ion~~ at a temperature of approximately 180
5 degrees Fahrenheit by completely immersing said aluminum metal in said aqueous
6 solution to generate hydrogen gas; and
- 7 (b) humidifying said hydrogen gas so generated.
- 1 **Claim 22 (currently amended):** The method of claim 21, wherein step (a) is performed in a
2 hydrogen gas generation vessel, said method further comprising preheating said aqueous
3 potassium hydroxide solution to said temperature in a holding vessel prior to step (a) and
4 transferring said preheated solution to said hydrogen gas generation vessel by pressurizing said
5 holding vessel.
- 1 **Claim 23 (currently amended):** . The method of claim 21, wherein step (a) is performed in a
2 hydrogen gas generation vessel, said method further comprising preheating said aqueous
3 potassium hydroxide solution to said temperature in a holding vessel prior to step (a),
4 transferring said preheated solution to said hydrogen gas generation vessel by pressurizing said

5 holding vessel, and removing said aqueous **potassium hydroxide** solution from said hydrogen
6 gas generation vessel by pressurizing said hydrogen gas generation vessel.

1 **Claim 24 (previously presented):** The method of claim 21, further comprising the steps of
2 collecting waste at the bottom of said hydrogen gas generation vessel and periodically opening
3 said hydrogen gas generating vessel to replace said the aluminum metal and remove said waste.

1 **Claim 25 (canceled)**

1 **Claim 26 (currently amended):** The method of claim ~~21~~ ~~25~~, wherein said aqueous potassium
2 hydroxide solution is about 25% potassium hydroxide solution.

1 **Claim 27 (previously presented):** The method of claim 22, comprising pressurizing said
2 holding vessel by air.

1 **Claim 28 (currently amended):** The method of claim 22, wherein said holding vessel holds
2 approximately twelve gallons of said aqueous **potassium hydroxide** solution.

1 **Claim 29 (canceled)**

1 **Claim 30 (previously presented):** The method of claim 21, wherein step (b) comprises
2 humidifying said hydrogen gas to approximately 100% humidity.

1 **Claim 31 (previously presented):** The method of claim 21, further comprising powering an
2 engine with said hydrogen gas so humidified.

1 **Claim 32 (previously presented):** The method of claim 21, further comprising powering a fuel
2 cell with said hydrogen gas so humidified.

1 **Claim 33 (previously presented):** The method of claim 21, further comprising transferring said
2 hydrogen gas so humidified to a gas storage cylinder.

1 **Claim 34 (previously presented):** The method of claim 22, further comprising powering an
2 engine with said hydrogen gas so humidified; collecting exhaust from said engine; condensing
3 water from said exhaust; and returning water so condensed to said holding vessel.

1 **Claim 35 (previously presented):** The method of claim 31, further comprising collecting
2 exhaust from said engine, and condensing water from said exhaust for use as drinking water.

1 **Claim 36 (previously presented):** The method of claim 32, further comprising condensing
2 water from said fuel cell for use as drinking water.

1 **Claim 37 (canceled)**

1 **Claim 38 (previously presented):** The method of claim 21, wherein said aluminum metal
2 comprises a plurality of tubular, spaced-apart aluminum fuel tubes.

1 **Claim 39 (currently amended):** The method of claim 21, further comprising emptying said
2 hydrogen gas generation tank of said aqueous **potassium hydroxide** solution and recovering
3 spent aluminum as a dust or fine grained powder.

1 **Claim 40 (previously presented):** The method of claim 39, further comprising recycling said
2 dust or fine grained powder.